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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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DATE DISTR. 19 Jan 1955

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Working Conditions of Doctors

1. [redacted] no norms, as such, were established for doctors or dentists. According to regulations, neurologists in dispensaries were required to interview six patients an hour. However, this regulation was not strictly observed. [redacted] 25X1
2. The doctors at the hospital were scheduled to work a seven-hour day; those at the clinic, a six-hour day. All doctors were required to spend three or four hours at some designated dispensary. Hence, each doctor held at least two jobs, and some worked for several organizations at the same time. It was not by official decree but by pressure from the Ministry of Health that the doctors were compelled to carry an extra work load. Dr. Jerzy Sztachelski, Minister of Health, had once stated at a meeting of doctors: "We should aim to have each doctor work ten hours a day". The doctors, therefore, committed themselves to perform additional work at some dispensary. Many of these extra duties [redacted] were really sinecures. 25X1
3. Padding of hours was quite extensively practiced by doctors and dentists and the employing institutions until sometime in 1951 or early 1952 when the system of wage payment for doctors was changed. The falsification of hours worked was eliminated by raising the salaries of the doctors and paying them for the actual time spent on the job. The doctors working in dispensaries now earn about the same amount of pay as formerly but the institutions competing for their services are no longer able to resort to falsification of work records in order to attract doctors.

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4. [redacted] three cases illustrative of the abuses committed by the employing institutions relative to the doctors' salaries for extra work performed. 25X1

a. [redacted] spent three hours a day two days a week at the Anti-Alcoholic Dispensary at 19 Wiejska Street in Warsaw but [redacted] salary of 310 zloty a month at the dispensary was based on a three-hour day, six days per week. 25X1

b. Dr. Kaczanowski, (fnu), the Director of the Pruszkow Hospital, was at the same time group doctor for the Mazowsze musical troupe, medical examiner (biegly) for the Prosecutor's Office of the Civil Court in Warsaw, and a member of the Provincial Medical Department. As the director of the hospital, he received a salary of about 2,000 zloty plus a 300 zloty supplement. As doctor for the Mazowsze troupe, he also received a salary, [redacted] As medical examiner for the Civil Court, he was paid an unknown amount on a per-case basis. [redacted] 25X1

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c. [redacted] a doctor who was simultaneously director of the Psychiatric Dispensary in Olsztyn, the official medical examiner of the railroad workers in that area, and the official medical examiner for some other unnamed institution. Though the doctor did all of his work for the three organizations in one office, he collected a triple salary.

Pruszkow Hospital Statistics and General Health Situation

5. [redacted] the competence of the post-1950 medical graduates in Poland is comparatively low. [redacted] the government appears to lay more emphasis on the quantity of doctors turned out than on their quality. For example, the 1947 graduating class at the Warsaw Medical Academy numbered 120 students. The 1953-54 class numbered 420 students. 25X1

6. Nervous disorders in Poland are on the rise. [redacted] in 1947, the hospital had 1,200 beds. There always were 20 to 30 beds free. Now there are only 1,050 beds but 1,200 or more patients. About 120 patients sleep on mattresses placed on the floor. From 1947 to about 1950, the number of patients admitted to the hospital ranged between none and seven per day. Now, between five and 20 patients are admitted daily, seven days a week. In 1917 the hospital began a system of numbering the cases admitted (patients who were readmitted always received a new number). By 1947 there were 17,000 admissions recorded. In 1954 the hospital was operating in the 37,000 series. In other words, the number of admissions to the Pruszkow hospital during the 30-year period from 1918 to 1947 averaged only 566 annually. This figure [redacted] is steadily rising. 2 25X1

7. The medical duty officer's task at the hospital was almost a sinecure in 1947. Then, the duty officer was able to leave his office several times a day for long periods, feeling certain that he would not be called upon for his services. Today, with a tremendously increased work load, he seldom finds a free moment. Every patient to be treated at the clinic is admitted to the hospital where a preliminary examination is made, his medical history maintained, and so forth.

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8. [] the rise in the number of neurotics in Poland^{25X1} to a variety of causes. Among the more direct ones were post-traumatics, brain and general infections, and internal and external poisoning such as alcoholism and lead poisoning. Among the other contributing factors he listed hard work, long hours, and bad living conditions. Cramped housing, constant difficulties with public transport, the necessity of having to stand hours in queues for even the smallest purchase, shortage of money, the necessity of holding down two jobs in order to make ends meet, inadequate nourishment and lack of medicaments and vitamins were important factors contributing to neurotic disorders.
9. The majority of the neurotics treated at the clinic were low-paid office workers. Numbers of men and women patients were about equal. Skilled workers and intelligentsia comprised the next largest group. There were very few peasants and unskilled laborers.
10. [] during the past few years about ten UB agents^{25X1} were admitted to the hospital and clinic. [] They all [] would lose their jobs as a result of their ailment. Most of them were very happy not to have to return to the old job. One or two even said: "At last I'll be free."
11. Colonel Drabik, (fnu), former chief of General Spychalski's Political Section of the Army, was admitted to the [] clinic in 1947.^{25X1} [] found him to be schizophrenic. Drabik was discharged after two months, but he did not return to Spychalski's office. Three months after discharge, he was returned to the hospital where he remained until his death in the fall of 1953. Colonel Drabik's case is evidence that, once a person in a responsible position in Poland becomes mentally ill, he never returns to his former post -- even though he may be pronounced 100% cured. Usually, he receives a much lower position or he may even be transferred to another office.
12. []^{25X1} [] an increase in rheumatic diseases [] the rate of tuberculosis and stomach ulcers is also steadily increasing. The growth of these diseases is due []^{25X1} to the low physical resistance of the people caused by poor living conditions and lack of nourishing foods. [] the rate of venereal diseases in Poland is decreasing. One of the chief reasons for the drop is the fact that many institutions and work establishments compel their employees to submit themselves to Wassermann tests, and anyone found suffering from these diseases must undergo treatment.
- Polish United Worker Party (PZPR)
13. The Pruszkow Hospital and the Psychoneurological Clinic³ employed about 400 people. [] only about six or seven^{25X1} percent of them belonged to the Party. Of the 28 doctors at the hospital (18 psychiatrists, six neurologists, four other medical specialists) only four were [] Party members,^{25X1} the director and three others.
14. The clinic itself employed about 45 persons. Of the ten doctors there, only one was a known Party member. []^{25X1} Party members in the lower ranks were worse off than non-Party people. They were called upon to do menial tasks, were placed on numerous time-consuming committees, had to attend special meetings and, in general, were the work-horses of the Party. The shoemaker

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at the hospital, forced to join the Party, frequently complained about the various chores he was called upon to do for the Party. The Party's motto at the hospital was: "A member has to serve as an example to non-Party people."

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15. The Pruszkow Psychoneurological Institute, an institution which cooperated with but was separate from the clinic and hospital, had its own Basic Party Organization (POB) and trade union. Of the 70 employees at this institute, there were 16 permanent and five part-time visiting doctors. Of these eight were probably in the Party. It was possible that one or two others were also in the Party.

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16. [redacted] the hospital director really ruled the Party cell and [redacted] was very domineering. All employees were afraid of him. The director prevented Zubilewicz's getting a non-refundable loan, stating that it would create a bad impression among the non-Party people for a Party member to receive this loan.

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Party Pressure on Doctors

17. [redacted] there was the constant pressure upon all doctors, Party and non-Party alike, to attend training classes, political meetings, mass meetings, occasional press reviews, and the like.

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[redacted] One phase of this pressure and regimentation [redacted] was that of having to comply strictly with Pavlov's theory.

18. [redacted] this pressure and regimentation in this field began about 1950 when all treatises and ideas dealing with psychiatry which were not based on Pavlov's theory were not allowed to be printed or advocated at medical meetings. The pressure in this field is steadily increasing.

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19. The older doctors, trained in other theories, find compliance difficult. Most of them, however, make an attempt to comply for the sake of expediency. The young psychiatrists and neurologists, on the other hand, subscribe to Pavlov's theory either because they are convinced of its greatness, not knowing any other theories, or simply because their adherence to it will serve as a path for their advancement. [redacted] that psychoanalysis in Poland is being conducted according to Pavlov's theory, but the treatment of patients continues to be made according to the prewar system and, in general, does not differ from Western methods.

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20. One instrument for enforcing conformity was the Polish Association of Psychiatrists, which had about 180 members [redacted] Local meetings were conducted irregularly, once a month or once every two or three months. There also were the regional and national meetings at which attendance was, in a sense, compulsory.

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21. At these meetings the Party, through its doctor-members, maintained a check on those doctors who advanced medical views which were opposed to those preached by the Communists. The doctors who were critical and failed to toe the official line would usually fall into disfavor. They might fail to be promoted or might even be assigned to relatively unimportant, low-paying positions. On the other hand, those doctors who publicly criticized the critics of Pavlov's theory were usually rewarded with fine promotions. Most of the doctors were very reluctant to attend the Association's meetings merely because they were not permitted to advance their own ideas and present their own points of view.

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[redacted] in 1953 Soviet scientific nomenclature was adopted and applied to Polish scientific education.

How Non-Communists Recognize Each Other

22. [redacted] it was usually not a great problem to determine whether a new acquaintance was a Communist. A close mutual friend might vouch for the anti-Communist connections of the new acquaintance. A person's position or type of work is also revealing. Thus, a director is, as a rule, a Party man. On the other hand, a person engaged in some private enterprise, and there still are a few, will never be a Party member. 25X1
23. The tone of the other person's remarks in conversation or any number of artful, seemingly innocuous but really meaningful statements also served as clues. The Party member and the non-Party Communist speak in a stereotyped style. They adhere to the Communist line. Only one limited, definite meaning can be gathered from their utterances. They do not indulge in any double-entendres. For example, a Communist will mention that in trying to make a purchase he had encountered some difficulty, had to wait in line, the price was quite high, and the like, but that he finally found the desired article and was very much satisfied with it. The trouble he had in procuring it was compensated by its excellence. In situations of this type, the non-Communist almost never praised the article.
24. Furthermore, if a non-Communist should utter a remark which may have several interpretations -- often thrown out as a feeler -- the Communist would see to it that the point was definitely clarified. He would set the speaker straight, as it were. On the average, the non-Communist is more free and easy-going in his conversation.
25. [redacted] 25X1
- ZMP
26. [redacted] the Polish Youth Association (ZMP) had a branch at the hospital [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] pressure had been exerted on them to join the Party. [redacted] most of the young people at the hospital, like the rest of the organization's membership, had joined because they were coerced or because they found it advantageous. Among other advantages, membership in the ZMP facilitated their admission to an institution of higher learning. Furthermore, it had a direct bearing on their future career. Thus, for example, a young graduate physician could apply for a stipend which amounted to 1,000 zloty for two years or an appointment as assistant professor to enable him to specialize in medicine. The stipends were paid by the Ministry of Health, whereas the salary of an assistant doctor was paid by the Psychoneurological Clinic in Pruszkow. Those graduate doctors who failed to receive a stipend or assistant doctorship were automatically placed at the mercy of the Ministry of Health and were sent to practice wherever the Ministry saw fit. One of the main factors in determining an applicant's eligibility for a stipend or for a position as assistant professor was the recommendation from his local ZMP organization. 25X1

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[redacted] many instances in which the applicants had excellent recommendations from their professors but were denied a stipend or assistant doctorship because the ZMP submitted a negative report.

27. Nominal membership in the ZMP was not enough. In order for members to earn an excellent recommendation, they had to be active participants. Many ZMP members failed to apply for admission to an institution of higher learning or for a stipend of specialization when they realized that their records as inactive ZMP members would not be satisfactory. Only a very small number of ZMP members were highly recommended by that organization. 25X1
28. The ZMP at the hospital issued a wall newspaper three times a year. The supervisor of this newspaper was a male nurse [redacted] Stefan Pietrzak. This nurse often complained [redacted] about having to do the time-consuming and worthless work of arranging the wall newspaper. 25X1

Trade Unions

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29. [redacted] Trade Union of Health Service Employees (ZZPSZ). Membership was not compulsory but pressure was constantly exerted by union leaders to join. [redacted] all employees of the Pruszkow Hospital complex were members of the union. Membership dues amounted to one percent of wages. 25X1
30. The trade union, per se, was not powerful, but it was frequently able to exert great influence merely because its governing board was usually headed by one or more Party members who were in a position to approach their Party and have the trade union's request granted. Regardless of the union's source of strength, certain advantages were derived from trade union membership. Among these were
- a. Union members could buy cheaper tickets to movies, sports events, theaters, concerts, and the like.
 - b. Union members were entitled to two-week vacations, a large percentage of the costs of which were borne by the union. [redacted] the normal cost, excluding transportation, of a two-week vacation was about 500 zloty. To benefit from this vacation, a white collar worker contributed only 220 zloty and the manual worker only 150 zloty. The union contributed the remainder and also paid transportation costs. [redacted] a worker who wanted to take his wife (who was unemployed) had to pay the full amount of 500 zloty for her stay at the resort plus her transportation costs. Very few, if any, workers who had families took advantage of these vacation benefits because of the high costs involved. 25X1
 - c. The union assumed the role of "protector" in certain cases of need. According to state regulations, no patient was to be released from Pruszkow Hospital unless he could be cared for by his family or close relatives. In the absence of such family ties, the union assumed legal guardianship to enable the patient to be released from the hospital. The union also found suitable employment for this person.

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- d. Membership in the union was very helpful in enrolling children in creches and kindergartens.
- e. A letter of recommendation from the trade union was usually required in various personal transactions such as buying a used car or material for house repairs. When an institution wanted to build barracks for its members, it needed union support. Trade union intervention was helpful in securing apartments for individuals.

- f. The trade union at the hospital operated an employee credit union. [redacted] this type of credit union existed at all institutions and work establishments. An employee became a member by paying regular monthly dues. Membership entitled him to borrow a stipulated amount of money, interest-free, from the union. This loan was repayable in monthly installments. The credit union also could make non-refundable monetary grants to workers and employees who were in dire circumstances because of deaths in the family, births, serious accidents, and the like. [redacted] the amount of this grant [redacted] about 500 zloty.

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- 31. [redacted] a conference held in 1952 by the trade union attached to the hospital. The problem for discussion was absenteeism due to illness. The agenda for this meeting -- as for all other meetings of this type -- was prepared well in advance by the trade union board. This board, and the local Party branch [redacted] selected certain members to point out and criticize the known shortcomings and the apparent lack of discipline of the hospital staff. Others were selected to carry on self-criticism. To give the conference an air of spontaneity, several members who were unprepared were called upon to "confess" and criticize themselves. If they refused, others were selected to criticize them. Though the net result of this particular conference was that absenteeism dropped considerably, the decrease was due to the fact that the pass-issuing authority, Dr. Jakubiak, (fnu) stopped excusing people from work even when they had legitimate reasons to be absent. The doctor was afraid to do otherwise because the trade union began to check up on personnel who were excused to determine whether or not their absences were justified. The local trade union received a commendation from the provincial union headquarters for its success in this action.

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- 32. Hospital-wide trade union conferences for discussing working conditions were held about twice a year. The various wards held their own union meetings about once a month. Elections of union officers for the hospital were conducted once a year. The problem was to find enough candidates for the positions. The average trade union member was not willing to serve in these thankless jobs but there always were a few ever-ready activists and Party people who were eager. Two or three candidates would be proposed by the outgoing board, which always named Party men. The remaining candidates were nominated from the floor. The names of 15 nominees were written on individual cards which were distributed among the assembled. The voters were permitted to strike out any of the names and insert new ones. The elected members selected their own governing board. During their tenure of office, the chairman and the secretary did not perform any duties at the hospital, but the hospital continued to pay their salaries.

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Ruling Groups

33. [redacted] no changes in the ruling groups after Stalin's death. However, soon after the "Kremlin doctors' plot" was announced [redacted] many Jews were being dismissed from relatively high positions in the government. [redacted] one Jewess, Dr. Estera Szemberg, who in addition to her duties as a physician at the Psychoneurological Institute in Pruszkow was also a prison doctor at the Mokotow prison on Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw. Shortly after the Kremlin plot was made public she was removed from her post at the prison. [redacted]
34. [redacted] Beria's downfall and reported execution did not affect any personalities in Polish government circles. [redacted] no arrests, dismissals, or reshuffling of men who might have been closely allied with Beria.
35. [redacted] the real power in Poland is Jakob Berman, who was referred to as the "Szara Eminencja" (the grey eminence -- the power behind the throne).

Religion

36. The regime does not officially forbid church attendance, but those who do attend may find themselves in disfavor. As a result there has been a change not so much in the number of churchgoers as in the type of person who attends. Many of the faithful who are in responsible positions have stopped attending for fear of jeopardizing their jobs. [redacted] Jozef Handelsman, Director of the Psychiatric Clinic in Pruszkow, a Jew who became a Roman Catholic convert, ceased going to church for that reason.
37. A professorship in psychiatry was open at one of the medical schools in either Krakow or Lubliniec. [redacted]
38. [redacted] about 10% of the 110 doctors at the medical training course for army officers in Lodz attended church regularly. In Muszaki, on the other hand, no one attended because the nearest church was 12 kilometers away. [redacted] a few army officers in church in Warsaw. Proportionately, however, there were many more enlisted men seen in church.
39. [redacted] prior to 1951, several army officers were discharged for church attendance. [redacted] no such action since then; however, it is rumored that now such officers are usually assigned menial and unpleasant duties. On the other hand [redacted] two army lieutenants [redacted] suffered no reprisals for having married in church.
40. [redacted] the church is presently undergoing a struggle for existence in Poland and is temporarily limited in its sphere of action. [redacted] that it will emerge victorious. The aim of the regime is to subjugate the church completely -- not necessarily liquidate it.

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It appears [] that the regime is trying to achieve its aims by establishing a national Catholic church which would be independent of Rome, and would serve as the regime's mouthpiece in Poland. Perhaps some of the "priest-patriots" would favor the establishment of the independent church in the hope of obtaining high posts in this configuration, but the majority of the Poles would be strongly opposed. [] because of the preponderance of Roman Catholics in Poland, the regime will not be successful in its efforts. [] most [] in the Catholic intelligentsia share his opinion.

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41. The regime, through its Polish Youth Association (ZMP), is engaged in a hard battle with the church for the soul of Polish youth. The church is countering the ZMP's Communistic, anti-religious campaign by offering religious instruction to the young people in some of the schools, and in church on Sunday afternoon and in the evenings throughout the week. [] the church appears to be winning that struggle, at least for the present. 25X1
42. As regards religious training in schools [] the schools which operated under the aegis of the Society of the Friends of Children (TPD) do not offer any religious instruction whatsoever. The public elementary (szkola powszechna) and high schools (gymnazja), on the other hand, offer this instruction when requested by the parents. [] a choral prayer recited by boys in a gymnasium in Pruszkow in the summer of 1953. 25X1 25X1
43. On the subject of the struggle between the church and the regime in Poland, [] a joke which [] was quite popular there. At a Corpus Christi procession in Warsaw one of the spectators, in order to obtain a better view of the procession, was elbowing his way through the crowd, shouldering and pushing people. A person nearby said to him: "Stop shoving. It is not nice for a Catholic to behave so rudely." The battering-ram replied: "You are mistaken. I'm not a Catholic. Nevertheless, I too am against the regime." 25X1 25X1
44. [] there are no chaplains attached to any hospitals in Poland. Hospital authorities permit priests to visit patients when requested by them; furthermore, the hospital pays the priest's visiting fees. 25X1
45. [] all seminary students are exempt from military service in Poland. 25X1 25X1
46. [] Cardinal Wyszyński's arrest []
47. According to rumors in Poland, the Cardinal is imprisoned in the north of Poland in a monastery which is now used as a prison; since he was not brought to trial immediately after his arrest, he will never be tried in court. [] the regime's form of attack on the Cardinal warrants this conclusion. Normally, before a person is arrested and tried, an investigation is conducted 25X1

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in secret. Publicity is given the case only after the trial begins. In Cardinal Wyszyński's case, however, the state first attacked him strongly in the press and radio, and put him under arrest later. The regime is aware of the Cardinal's tremendous influence among the Polish people and, therefore, is using extreme caution. 25X1

48.

49.

"The Jesuit monthly, Przegląd powszechny was forced to suspend publication in 1952 because of the direct action of the government. Before its shutdown, the proofs were always censored by the government Press Control Office, which usually struck out some passages or even entire articles. This meant extra work in resetting the magazine, the cost of which was becoming prohibitive. Finally, the Jesuits were refused printing paper; and, although not officially banned, the magazine was compelled to suspend publication.

50.

the Provincial of Warsaw was imprisoned for 25X1
a few months in either late 1951 or early 1952 for some unknown 25X1
reason.

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Radio

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55. VOA, BBC, and RFE find a receptive audience in Poland. Most of the Poles [] listened mainly to news-casts; they considered foreign accounts about internal Polish developments as redundant. For news reports and editorial comments they relied more on VOA and BBC, especially the latter because it was allegedly more moderate in its observations. 25X1

56. RFE, by presenting various incidents and detailed examples of daily life in Poland, appealed more to Poles of average education, who considered such RFE broadcasts as proof of the West's awareness of the situation in Poland. RFE [] is playing a very commendable role in this respect. 25X1

57. Generally speaking, the Western radio maintains a spirit of resistance among the Poles. It serves as an assurance to them that the West is constantly thinking about Poland and it provides a ray of hope for people who are on the verge of despondency. The Western radio arouses a yearning for the West and, in the case of those who have an idea of fleeing to the West, it builds up and excites their will to flee by describing the freedom and the high standard of living prevailing there. [] almost every listener is convinced that if he escapes from Poland he will obtain desirable employment and his standard of living will rise considerably. [] economic betterment, although important, was not the chief reason for the average Pole's desire to flee to the West. The primary reason is that of acquiring the "feeling of being free". 25X1

58. [] RFE should double the time it gives to coverage of world news. Furthermore, both RFE and VOA should broadcast more information on the activities of and the discussions carried on by the various Slavic emigre groups regarding a possible future Slavic federation. [] no one in Poland knows about these attempts being made in the West. [] this idea would find much appeal in Poland. 25X1

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59. [] the establishment of an army composed of Slavic emigres would have great political significance among the Poles. Broadcasts about such a federated army would maintain the spirit of those behind the Iron Curtain and perhaps encourage many to flee and join that army.
60. [] the Poles, on the whole, were fairly well appraised of the international developments chiefly through Western broadcasts. For obvious reasons, however, they discussed these developments only with their very close friends. Most of the Poles [] viewed each event as a step closer to war, which to them meant possible salvation and liberation. The remark, "the noose is being gradually tightened on the USSR", was repeatedly heard [] in conjunction with every new explosive international incident. 25X1
61. [] jamming was especially strong in Warsaw. In the Opole region, however, there was little or no jamming and, hence, most of the people there listened uninterruptedly to RFE and the three daily VOA broadcasts. 25X1

Recovered Territories

62. [] the attitude of the average Pole toward the "recovered territories" has changed somewhat during the past three or four years. Even the term is no longer used. The Polish radio, press, as well as the people themselves refer to that area as the western provinces or western territories. Before 1949 most of the Poles were very reluctant to settle there. Today they move westward willingly. The fear of losing those territories, although still present, is not so great as it was. [] the "middle class" of Warsaw, which was overcrowded, feared going to the "recovered territories" in 1947, 1948 and 1949. Now they have no qualms about settling there. Mrs. Paszkowska, (fnu) a librarian at a hospital in Wroclaw, and her daughter, a psychologist at a children's hospital there [] moved to that city in 1950 or 1951. They are both just as much "at home" there as they were in Warsaw. [] they both are of the opinion that that area will remain in Polish hands. 25X1

63.

[] a recent book by Pawel (snu) on his archeological findings in the western territories. The author made the claim that at one time a common Slavic culture existed in that area and, hence, it is ethnographically Polish. [] many []

[] read that book and accepted the author's conclusions. 25X1

Attitudes

a. Political

64. [] only about 10% of the Poles are either convinced Communists or Communist sympathizers. About 20% cooperate with the regime although they do not agree with its policies. About 50% maintain a strong negative attitude toward the regime, 25X1

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whereas about 15% are bitterly anti-regime and anti-Communist. The remainder may be classified as indifferent. These percentages include Party and non-Party people of all social levels. The estimated 10% of convinced Communists in Poland is composed of idealists who consider the ideal more important than life, those who acquired authority and special privileges, and a portion of the uncritical, unthinking youth brought up under the system and catered to.

65. [redacted] 10% at most would vote for the present regime in a free and secret election. 25X1

[redacted] a large percentage of the youth was anti-Communist. 25X1

the Poles would vote for local, known anti-Communists in preference to the emigre Poles, being convinced that the local anti-Communists would be much better acquainted with the situation in Poland than would the emigres who were away from the country for many years. [redacted] the future leaders of Poland should be sought in Poland. The emigre group should not be disregarded entirely, however, for it is this group which at present represents free Polish opinion. 25X1

66. The overwhelming majority of the Polish population is very much dissatisfied with political conditions in Poland. Among the many reasons for their discontent [redacted] 25X1

- a. The fear of becoming an innocent victim of the secret operations of the ubiquitous UB agents and Party informers. A person must constantly be on guard not to do or utter anything which may be falsely interpreted and reported by these informers. What is most irksome is the fact that there is no defense against the subjective opinions and reports submitted by the various secret arms of the state. Furthermore, there is the fear of losing one's job and the possibility of being imprisoned. The inhumane police state tactics [redacted] are absolutely unbearable. 25X1
- b. The steady flow of regime propaganda which does not portray the true situation in Poland. The average Pole is much irritated by propaganda which explains the country's various economic ills as being unavoidable in a fast-growing community when he knows very well that these economic difficulties will remain as long as Communism remains.
- c. The increasing restriction on the freedom of speech and press.
- d. The ban on free assembly.
- e. The fact that the people are compelled to participate in political organizations, manifestations, and political training courses.
- f. The forced acceptance of state resolutions on international causes and movements.
- g. The absence of free and secret elections.
- h. The inability to travel abroad.

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- 1. The feeling of being occupied by a hostile power.
- j. The historically traditional enmity of the Poles toward Russia.
- k. The great irritation of Polish patriotic feeling caused by the minimization of Poland's attainments in favor of the Soviets and by imitation of everything Soviet.
- l. Perversion of Polish history in the Polish press, radio, books, and schools.

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67.

[redacted] The regime is constantly introducing changes which are both quantitative and qualitative so that no one can judge what is coming.

68. From 1947 to 1954 many drastic changes have occurred in Poland, most of them, of course, economic. During these seven years private enterprise has been all but liquidated. Almost all doctors, dentists, lawyers, engineers, artists, and teachers are employed directly by the state. The state is now directing its efforts to complete liquidation of the individual farmer. Perhaps within the next five or ten years the regime will eradicate all forms of private initiative in Poland.

69. The individual is becoming ever more restricted in the selection of employment. In ten or 15 years he may find himself at the complete mercy of the state in this respect.

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[redacted] About the only important factor which decides whether or not a person is hired is the opinion of the ZMP or the PZPR.

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70. [redacted] no [redacted] changes in the political structure of the government. Though almost complete control has already been attained by the regime, all forms of political pressure are steadily increasing. There are more political meetings, political training classes, press reviews for the employees, and the like. There is less freedom of speech on political and social questions.

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71. Great sociological changes are taking place in Poland. The prewar intelligentsia, with its broad, university-level education and its long tradition, is being superseded by a new social phenomenon, a technical intelligentsia composed of inadequately trained technical "specialists" of middle-school education. This element, whose numbers are increasing rapidly, may be the nucleus of a new middle class which may influence Poland's future.

72. One of the most important factors determining whether the Poles as a whole will let themselves be completely subjugated by the regime or remain hopeful and passively resistant and militant will be the role played by the Church in Poland. Although its sphere of action has been greatly curtailed, its influence still remains strong. This influence may wane after 20 years, depending upon who wins the struggle for the minds of the youth -- the church or the regime. [redacted] the postwar generation [redacted] is being exposed more and more to the machinations of a regime which pretends to cater especially to the youth.

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73.

the government's policy and the political, economic, and social structure will eventually approximate that of the USSR. the reaction of the older generation of Poles, however, will remain unchanged. They will continue to resist, albeit passively, in every possible manner. Because of their social and national character they will not cooperate and allow themselves to be completely subjugated as are the Russians who are more or less accustomed to dictatorship. The older Poles have had contact with and feel an attachment to the West. With the passing of this older generation the situation in Poland may change considerably. The postwar generation, completely isolated from the West, may fall easy prey to the Communist ideology.

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b. Economic

74.

life in Poland is becoming increasingly more difficult. The standard of living appears to be falling. Almost all Poles complain about the shortage of food and consumer goods, the cramped housing, low incomes, and the generally bad living conditions. Because of their low incomes, most people are forced to find additional employment in order to eke out an existence. The long working hours plus the fact that much of the individual's time is consumed by the countless meetings and gatherings result in less time devoted to family life.

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75.

The reaction of the medical doctors to the general living conditions in Poland is the same as that of any other Pole today. Because of their low incomes they too must seek additional employment to supplement their meager incomes. They are oppressed by the realization that they are not able to raise their standard of living. Because of the extra work load they have little or no time for family life and no time whatsoever for improving their professional qualifications through additional studies.

76.

Of the ten doctors at the clinic, two were from the peasant class, one from the worker class, and the others from the prewar intelligentsia. About 60% of the student body at the Warsaw Medical Academy stem from the worker and peasant class.

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77.

Most of the psychiatrists and neurologists, both the pre- and postwar graduates, are people who are devoted to their profession, have a deep interest in it, and are proud of the doctor's title. Economic considerations, although important, were not the prime motive for their entering this profession, since they all realized that the salary of a doctor is only slightly higher than that of an office worker. they all were sincere in seeking this profession; it was not a matter of economic opportunism. The young doctors who adhere strictly to the educational theories propounded by the state do so merely for the sake of expediency. In this sense they may be classed as opportunists.

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78.

There are certain economic features which most Poles find quite satisfactory. Among them are low rents, low monthly transportation rates for workers, and elaborate social and medical facilities. On the other hand, the widespread bureaucracy and utter disorganization in all spheres of administrative and economic life is a source of extreme dissatisfaction among people in Poland. It

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is not possible for individuals to purchase new cars in Poland, not even the "Warszawa" which is produced in Poland. This car is actually the Soviet "Pobeda" which is merely assembled at the Zeran Passenger Car Factory in Warsaw. The government, through its agency known as Motozbyt, occasionally offers some of its used cars for sale. These cars are usually in very bad condition and in need of a complete overhaul.

friends purchased one in 1950 for 1,000 zloty and spent 4,000 zloty on it for repairs. The present prices of government-owned used cars range between six and ten thousand zloty.

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the sale price of privately-owned, used cars ranges between 20,000 and 25,000 zloty.

79. there are four delicatessens (Delikatessy) operating in Warsaw in 1954. One of them was the Marszalkowska MDM, one at the Central Department Store on Jerozolimska Street, one on Nowy Swiat, and the other in Praga. Each of these stores carried the sign: "We buy all your food received in packages from abroad." Prices were also quoted.

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the price offered for coffee was 360 zloty. this imported coffee was not resold to the general public but was for government officials.

80. despite the recent imposition of the relatively high duties on individual imports of food and clothing, gift packages are still welcomed by the Poles. The best marketable item is used clothing. black marketeers loiter at the various post offices waiting for the opportunity to lend the necessary tax to recipients of packages.

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c. General

81. There is absolutely no thought of an uprising in Poland now. Under the present circumstances the Poles view their situation as hopeless. Surrounded on practically all sides by the enemy, being without arms, ammunition, or the possibility of assistance from the West, and almost thoroughly policed by the various secret arms of the state, the average Pole has no incentive to start something which he feels might be as unsuccessful as the Warsaw uprising in August 1944. Even in the event of a war, the Poles would be wary. Sabotage, uprisings, and the like would be undertaken only if the battle front were very near Poland. If a country allied with or friendly to the United States bordered Poland, the Poles would react differently; under those circumstances they would feel they could rely on help from the United States.

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82. The general opinion was that war is inevitable and that it is not too far off. Everyone of them is absolutely convinced that the "United States will defeat the Soviets". They base their conclusions on comparisons of the Western and Eastern armies and their production, supply, and armament potential. Many Poles have seen the Western armies. seen some comparative figures on the West's and East's armed forces, armaments, production capacity, and the like, in the Polish Short Statistical Annual published by the regime in 1947 and 1948. According to that annual, Soviet strength was only about half that of the United States. Most of the Poles consider that the USSR's might has grown somewhat since then but not greatly enough to pose a threat to the United States.

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83. The attitude of the Poles toward Germany continues to be hostile. [] it is difficult to determine which they despise more, the Soviets or the Germans. They do not want the German army to march into Poland, even to fight the Soviets. Any other Western army would be welcome as liberators; the German army, on the other hand, would be tolerated in Poland only if it were under the very strict control and supervision of the United States. 25X1
84. [] the United States and Great Britain are strengthening Western Germany to create a certain balance of power with Germany acting as a buffer. [] this attempt to create a balance in Europe is simultaneously leading to an imbalance. The ruling circles of Germany are aware of their opportunity in the present situation and are "playing it to the hilt". [] the Poles were not in favor of rearming Germany, even under the aegis of the EDC. Most of them are of the opinion that complete integration of the German army into a European force is impossible. They feel that the German staff would become very influential in that configuration and that that influence would be disastrous to Poland. 25X1
85. The Polish propaganda media devote much time and space to publicizing the alleged revival of the strongly anti-Polish Nazi organizations. This propaganda exerts an enormous influence on the Poles, who have an inbred hatred of the Germans. [] the regime propaganda in this respect is quite successful. There is as much hatred toward the East Germans as there is toward the West Germans; however, because the Polish regime officially recognizes the East German government and propagandizes the alleged Polish-East German amity, this anti-East German feeling is made less apparent. Furthermore, if it were not for the fact that the Soviets occupy and are in control of East Germany, just as much criticism and vilification would be hurled at that portion of Germany. 25X1
86. Most of the Poles [] treat the various East-West conferences, such as the ones in Berlin or Geneva, as useless attempts at a peaceful settlement of world problems. On this question, the Poles are of one opinion, nothing will ever be accomplished at a round table with the Soviets. Most of the Poles are convinced that only a war will break the impasse. They would like this war waged in Asia, however, as they fear that another war at home would wipe Poland off the map. [] there seldom were any discussions of international developments [] because [] there cannot be any discussion when people are of the same opinion. To known Communists international developments are not even mentioned. In general, the subject of most discussions may be summarized by the question: "When will the war start?" 25X1
87. [] the conviction, shared by most Poles [] that the United States can successfully prevent the spread of Soviet power. Communism [] is a religion. It has its own dogma, doctrines, "saints", its "holy scripture", and the like. To offset the teachings of Communism, the West should adopt a Christian social program which the various information media such as the radio, press, churches, and schools could publicize. This method would involve a patient, relentless, long-range struggle. By applying this method the West would in all probability contain the USSR and Communism. The quickest, surest, and most decisive method of not only containing the USSR but also of annihilating Communism would be by waging a war with the USSR. 25X1

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There is scarcely anyone in Poland who does not believe that a war between the West and the USSR would last only about two months and that the West, more strictly speaking, the United States with its incomparable superiority in every department of modern warfare, would be definitely victorious.

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95. Travel from Pruszkow to Warsaw was rather annoying. Because of the poor transportation facilities, a short business transaction of about half an hour or so would consume three-and-a-half or four hours.

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97. Always present was the personal reaction to the Communist propaganda in the press, on the radio, and in the ubiquitous announcements on the billboards, bulletin boards -- everywhere.
98. About two or three times a week there were meetings and conferences at which attendance was more or less compulsory. Among these were training classes in Pavlov's theory, meetings of the trade union, political training classes, and press reviews. Periodically there were general trade union meetings on a provincial or nationwide level, rallies (akademja), mass meetings, and "actions" such as an excursion of medical teams to some village.

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99. [redacted] the only real relaxation was found in a social gathering either with one's family or with friends, whom one trusted and with whom one felt free to discuss delicate topics. One of the conditions enabling a person to become fully relaxed was that of having an adequate supply of liquor, without which it would be quite difficult to develop a happy mood and to muster a smile.
100. The cinema and the theater offered only a semblance of entertainment and relaxation because they were used as instruments of state propaganda. A pleasant breathing spell was afforded by a classical play or by a rarely shown movie from the West.

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Miscellaneous

102. [redacted] the Michurin Group in Warsaw conduct research in sheep breeding on its large farm in Sufozyn, which is located on the Warsaw/Lublin road about 50 kilometers southeast of Warsaw. The project in [redacted] was discontinued when the Michurin group in Warsaw was officially dissolved at the end of 1953. The dissolution of this group occurred when fraud, malfeasance, and corruption was uncovered among its leaders. These leaders [redacted] were engaged in various shady business deals instead of keeping themselves occupied strictly with research in breeding and cross-breeding of animals. The Michurin headquarters in Warsaw, with a network of branch offices throughout

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Poland, operated with rather businesslike efficiency. While traveling around the country and with the aid of their confidential agents in their various branches, employees of the group would locate stocks of material and equipment lying in the fields or in old buildings, presumably "lost" and unclaimed, and then would go in search of buyers. Frequently, the customers themselves made requests for certain materials. A regular trade in various kinds of pipes, rails, bricks, lumber, gravel, and the like sprang up. The fraudulent activity of this group was halted when it offered gravel for the construction of the Palace of Culture in Warsaw at a price far below that asked by a state supplier. There was, however, no public scandal in connection with the disbanding of the Michurin organization [redacted] because Marshal Rokossovskiy's sister was a member of that organization in Warsaw. [redacted]

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103. [redacted] Rokossovskiy was a Pole [redacted] it is possible [redacted] but [redacted] he became Sovietized like many other Poles who travelled to the USSR for a variety of reasons after the first war, were forced to remain, and were documented as Soviets. The national allegiance of these Poles depended upon their attitude, point of view, and feelings. Rokossovskiy's loyalty may now lie with the Soviets. It is certain that he is organizing the Polish army along the Soviet pattern.

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104. [redacted] 25X1

105. [redacted] in Warsaw [redacted] a black marketeer who carried on a brisk trade in American dollars. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] this black marketeer paid about 60 zloty for the American dollar and sold it for 65 zloty.

106. [redacted] the Minister of Health in Poland, Dr. Sztachelski, 25X1
was born in Wilno. [redacted] Sztachelski was active in a student Communist organization at Wilno University before the war.

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